

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 29th July 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The following is an abstract translation from the *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 24th July :—

The Seistan Commission.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL MATEEN,
July 24th, 1905.

Thirty-two years ago the English Government sent a Commission under Mr. Goldsmith to Seistan with a view to determine its boundaries. The Commission recorded a description of the boundaries without putting boundary pillars. The Commission gave a large portion of Seistan to the Afghans. Subsequently they were induced to pick a quarrel with the people of Seistan, so that the English might try to get some advantage there. When that was really the case, the Persian authorities were induced to express their desire to the British Embassy for the settlement of the dispute by a Commission. A Commission was, therefore, appointed under Colonel MacMahon with the special instruction that after finishing its mission, which would take about three or four months to do, it should come back, but three years have since rolled by, and the tents of the members of the Commission have been converted into fine buildings. The site on which the Commission pitched its camp looks like a small town, and a British Consul has been placed there to settle disputes. The Commission instead of settling the main point of dispute between Persia and Afghanistan began to fix demarcation pillars to separate the territory of the Afghans from that of Persia. In this way the land lying to the west of those pillars has been recognized as belonging to the latter, while that which lies to the east of them has been given to the Afghans. By the new delimitation Tarku, which is the name for half of Seistan, falls to the lot of the Amir. This is the country which the English have long been trying to secure from Persia. Thus, if the proposal of the Seistan Commission is given effect to, the long cherished object of the English will be fulfilled.

It is said that one of the objects of the Afghan Mission was to induce the Amir to cede Tarku which he was going to acquire to the English, so that they might extend the Nushki Railway to that place.

The Commission remained at Seistan for more than two years, during which it went through every creek and corner of it. It had with it a large number of Indian sepoy under English officers. This was quite against international laws. In fact the present Commission in such a grand style will produce a bad effect in the mind of the ignorant Persian subjects. Moreover the Commission has exported a large quantity of food-grains from Seistan, and the people, therefore, have suffered much from scarcity of the bare necessities of life.

The dispute in respect to the Helmond river has been settled in the following manner:—

- (1) Each of the two kingdoms can take a supply of water by means of canals for irrigation purposes.
- (2) Persia's share of the benefits derived from the river in question will be only a third of the whole.
- (3) Persia cannot allow any other nation to share in the benefit derived from that river without the Amir's permission.
- (4) An experienced engineer will be appointed to supervise the irrigation works of the river.

The first condition is favourable to the Afghans, as they hitherto could get no benefit from it. The second condition has been added purposely to the disadvantage of Persia, as she will not be able to get more than one-third of its water for irrigation purposes. By the third condition the Commission made Persia dependent on Afghanistan. The mischief contained in the fourth condition is that the proposed engineer will be all in all in Seistan, as the people of that place entirely depend upon the water of the Helmond for their very existence.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. A correspondent of the *Hitavarta* [Muradnagar] of the 17th July makes the following allegations against Babu Kamini Kumar Bardhan, President of the local Panchait Union, and a resident of village Chaibpur, thana Kasba, Brahmanbaria subdivision, Tipperah:—It is alleged that one of

Allegations against a President Panchait.

HITAVARTA,
July 17th, 1905.

the President's raiyats and a neighbour fell out with each other in consequence of a dispute about the trespassing of a cow belonging to the former upon lands belonging to the latter. On the plea of preventing a breach of the peace the President, accompanied by a force of chaukidars, arrived on the scene of the dispute, and there taking sides with his own tenant, assaulted the opposite party in the dispute. Subsequently it was only through the good offices of a common friend, whom the President succeeded in winning over by means of flattery, that the injured party could be dissuaded from taking legal proceedings against him.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 18th, 1905.

3. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th July says that Muhammad Abdul Jabbar, proprietor of the Noakhali Press in Noakhali town, incurred the displeasure of the local police for going against it in the well-known Pennell affair, and the police had his name included first in the list of C class and then in the list of B class *budmashes*. The Noakhali Police is as bad as before, if not worse. Osman Ali is gone, but his disciples are there, who surpass their master in the art of oppression. Babu Kunja Behari Chaudhuri, the junior Sub-Inspector of the thana, is a nephew of the notorious Kailas *kerani*. A constable named Lakshmikanta Chakravarti, who is the priest of Kunja Babu's father-in-law and a neighbour of Kailas *kerani*, is often kept in charge of the thana, although there is a writer-constable attached to it. The authorities are requested to transfer Kunja Babu and the constable Lakshmikanta from the thana.

CHARU MIHIR,
July 18th, 1905.

4. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 18th July says that the main causes of the great prevalence of crime in the Mymensingh district are (1) want of education among the common people, and (2) their complete disarmament, which makes them unable to stand against thieves, dacoits and *budmashes*.

CHARU MIHIR.

5. The same paper says that of the 15 *budmashes* of Ghaturi, Chapuria and other villages in the Mymensing district, against whom proceedings have been drawn up under section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 10 are still at large. Of these 10, at least are 7 living in their own villages or in neighbouring villages, and the police can, if it makes a little exertion, easily arrest them. Unless these *budmashes* are arrested, it will be difficult to procure evidence to support the proceedings, because people will fear to say anything against them so long as they are at large.

PALLIVASI,
July 19th, 1905.

6. A correspondent writing to the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 19th July from Raina complains that the local collecting panchait, Babu Nakur Chandra Nandi, in league with an *ex*-Sub-Inspector of Police and with four other utterly ignorant men of his choice as his assistants, is harassing the inhabitants of the union. In spite of the fact that a surplus of 34 or 35 rupees remains from last year's collection after all expenditure, the villagers have this year been served with notices demanding taxes at an enhanced rate. The last three years have been years of scanty crops, and in such circumstances, increased taxes are a serious harassment.

MURSHIDABAD
HITAISHI,
July 19th, 1905.

7. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 19th July says that for a month past a sort of gambling with three balls has been briskly going on in a certain quarter of Khagra town in the Murshidabad district. This is doing great harm to the locality. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

JASOHAR,
July 19th, 1905.

8. A correspondent of the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 19th July complains that the Bhairab stream in that part of its course which lies between Shekhati and Doulatpur is infested by a large number of crocodiles, whose depredations have created a panic among the villagers on both banks. It would be difficult to number the people who have been in the course of the last two or three years killed by these crocodiles. At present the villages of Subhrara, Dulgrain, Siddhipasa, Barrackpur and Gilatala are specially suffering from this source of danger and annoyance.

9. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July reports that a few days ago a number of the Military students of the Calcutta Medical College, who have their quarters in the special Hostel provided for them at Colootola Street, assaulted a neighbouring shopkeeper who pressed for the full payment of the price of a box of cigarettes they had purchased. Reference is also made to a second case of assault by a party composed of the same class of students on another Indian which is alleged to have occurred on the evening of the 20th July last. It appears that on that day a young Maratha lad named Sadasin was passing along the street in front of the hostel above referred to when a party of Military students came up from behind and pushed the lad forcibly aside in order to make the way clear for themselves. The lad was naturally taken by surprise at this blow from behind his back, and turning his face inquired "who is that?" At this question, the Military students began to belabour him until a crowd assembled, when they made their escape. The injuries received by the lad included a fractured forehead and a wounded thumb. The paper concludes with the statement that assaults like these are events of constant occurrence in this quarter of the town.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 22nd, 1905.

10. A correspondent writing to the *Chinsura Vartavaha* [Chinsura] of the 23rd July from village Mohanad, thana Polva, in the Hooghly district, says that the outstill liquor shop which is about to be established on the banks of the late Gopi Krishna Kar's tank named "Chandni," in the Tangil quarter of Mohanad, will cause great inconvenience to the local public. It is pointed out that this tank is made use of by a large number of respectable females for bathing and drinking. Further, on account of its being situated on the Bhastara and Tribeni roads, a large number of female pilgrims on their way to the bathing-festival at Tribeni, halt on its banks to rest and refresh themselves. Besides these two special classes of people who will be annoyed by the opening of the liquor-shop, there is the general respectable population of the villages living on all sides of the tank who will also be similarly prejudicially affected.

CHINSURA
VARTAVAHA,
July 23rd, 1905.

11. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th July draws the attention of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, to the conduct of the constables of the Colootollah thana, who live in a hired house on the Colootollah Street, in appropriating to their own use the footpath in front of the house and in insulting passers-by who use that footpath. A few days ago some Musalman constables were eating their food sitting on the footpath, when a Musalman gentleman, not noticing them, happened to pass by. He was abused and insulted by the constables, who even threatened to send him up on the false charge of committing nuisance.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 24th, 1905.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

12. After commenting on the Magistrate's judgment in the Saran railway outrage case, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 20th July continues—

SRI SRI VISHNU
P. IYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
July 20th, 1905.

Bravo, Mr. Bonham-Carter! Praise be to your logic and a thousand praises to your power of judgment! It was only the other day that a driver in the United Provinces was sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years for attempting to outrage a European female. If in the present case the victim of the outrage had been a European female, instead of a poor Musalman woman, then, whoever he may have been, the offender would have been sufficiently punished for his misdeed. In cases between European and native, the European accused are acquitted in this fashion. We do not wish to say whether the driver was the real offender in the present case. We do not wish to call him guilty seeing he has been acquitted after a trial. But the judgment which Mr. Bonham-Carter has pronounced is nothing but a case of failure of justice. The Magistrate in the course of his judgment has suggested that another guard of the name of Davidson was also a passenger on the train in which the offence was committed, and that he was the really guilty party. To make such a suggestion is quite illegal on the part of the Magistrate. Was it at all prudent for him to make such a grave charge purely by the force of

his imagination against a man against whom no complaint has been lodged and no evidence has been produced? What can be more regrettable than the ignorance, which the Magistrate has shown by making this suggestion, of the risk which he runs of a prosecution for defamation at the hands of Davidson on this account? Mr. R. Ghose, a Barrister of Saran, called a meeting to bring this case to His Honour's notice. A united petition from Hindus and Musalmans on this subject will be presented to His Honour on the occasion of his arrival at Saran on the 24th July next in the course of his tour.

SANJIVANI,
July 20th, 1905.

13. Referring to the Saran railway outrage case, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th July says that the number of cases of outrage on females on Indian railways is increasing day by day. In this state of things the manner in which Mr. Bonham-Carter, Magistrate, has acquitted the accused person in the above case leads people to believe that justice cannot be expected from law-courts in complaints of this description. The attention of the Lieutenant-Governor is drawn to the matter.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

14. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July in noticing the recent Saran and Khargpur railway outrage cases, remarks that if the accused in cases of brutal outrage like these are not punished, then travelling on railways by females will become highly dangerous. If the impression gains ground among the public at large that a European outraging an Indian female, stands little chance of punishment from the Courts, then the native public are likely to take to other means to revenge themselves instead of resorting to the law. There will thus be a gradual increase in discontent in the country. Outraging female virtue is in the eyes of oriental peoples a more heinous offence than murder. Special care is necessary in the inquiry and trial of offenders accused of such an offence. It is to be hoped therefore that Government will see that justice is done in the Khargpur and Saran cases.

BANGAVASI,
July 22nd, 1905.

15. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July says that the decisions in the Stapylton arson case and the Saran railway outrage case have created quite a sensation in the country. In the former case Government should make an appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of the Calcutta High Court. As regards the latter case, something must be done to enable people correctly to identify European offenders. It is suggested that the uniforms of soldiers and of lower European officers in the railway service should bear designs of familiar birds, animals, &c., so that there can be no mistake in identifying them.

HITAVARTA,
July 23rd, 1905.

16. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July says that Mr. Bonham-Carter, District Magistrate of Saran, has discharged the European engine-driver who stood charged before him with having made an indecent assault on one Habiban, a female passenger on the East Indian Railway. We are quite surprised to see the result of the trial in face of the evidence against the accused. We draw the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to the miscarriage of justice in this case.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

17. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July notices the inconvenience which has been caused to the public by the transfer and retransfer within a short interval of time of the jurisdiction over a number of villages in the Rajahat outpost between the Baraset and Sealdah Munsifis. It appears that these villages were in April last transferred from the Sealdah to the Baraset Munsifi, but that since the 1st July last, they have been retransferred from the Baraset to the Sealdah jurisdiction. As an illustration of the inconveniences referred to, it is pointed out that in all cases which have been sent from Baraset to Sealdah, and *vice versa*, *vakalatnama* and *vakil's* fees, have had to be paid twice over.

BASUMATI,
July 22nd, 1905.

(c)—Jails.

18. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July says that in the Baraset Jail, under the management of the Hindusthani Musalman who is now Assistant Jailor, the food supplied to the prisoners is unwholesome and fit only for the consumption of the lower class animals. Further, the Jail

Allegation against an Assistant Jailor.

garden is overgrown with weeds, no care is bestowed on the cultivation of good kitchen vegetables, a stray *kumra* or a *puni* creeper here and there relieving the monotony of the general air of decay which pervades it. The prisoners are unjustly treated in the matter of fare, and are made to hew pieces of wood for the use of others.

(d)—Education.

19. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July says that it would appear from an ingenious statement recently made by the Government of Bengal in the Bengal Legislative Council, that a Civilian will be appointed to succeed Mr. Pedler as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal. But Civilians, however able and proficient they may be in administrative matters, have no educational experience. The argument that there is at present a dearth of good men in the Education Department fit to be Director of Public Instruction does not seem to be a very sound one. It is believed that Government has some hidden motive in making the change. The sight of a man who has no educational experience at all being put at the head of an Education Department is possible in this luckless land alone.

HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

20. In reference to the proposal of Government to appoint a Civilian as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July says that it is only in India that Civilians who have no experience in educational matters can be appointed to the post. In a country where public opinion is strong, Government can never dare do any such arbitrary thing.

HITAVARTA,
July 23rd, 1905.

21. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July draws the attention of the authorities to the series of articles which are being contributed by an experienced and able writer to this paper on the subject of vernacular education in Bengal.

BANGAVASI,
July 22nd, 1905.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

22. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 21st July writes:—
The estate of the late Maharaja Gobinda Lal Roy of Tajhat is now under the Court of Wards and is being managed by Mr. Pope. The following figures will make clear to what condition Mr. Pope is bringing the estate:—

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA,
July 21st, 1905.

	Rs.
Gross rental of the Tajhat estate	3,45,000
Establishment charges in the mufassal	32,000
Revenue payable to the Collectorate and that payable to the maliks and zamindars	1,32,000
Income-tax and stipends payable to Pandits	900
Sudder establishment charges of the Maharaja's time, family expenses, &c.	46,000
Annual income or surplus	1,34,100

When on the 21st Agrahayan, 1310 B.E., the estate passed under the management of the Court of Wards, there were Rs. 30,000 in reserve, Government promissory notes to the value of Rs. 5,18,000, and outstanding arrears of rent, &c. amounting to Rs. 6,00,000. Mr. Pope is a great expert at managing the affairs of a zamindari, and thus it comes about that during the short time he has been in charge of this estate, he has sold off Government promissory notes to the value of a lakh of rupees, and also drawn interest on Government promissory notes amounting to Rs. 87,000. Further he has collected a sum of Rs. 36,000 under the head of Loans and Advances. But not even all this seems to satisfy Mr. Pope. What can explain this policy of parting with the accumulated funds in a case, when there are no debts and when the net annual income is such a sum as Rs. 1,34,100? A great many allegations against Mr. Pope are being heard on all sides regarding his management of this estate.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigations.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
July 21st, 1905.

23. With reference to the projected extension of the Baraset-Basirhat Light Railway to Hasnabad, the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 21st July is informed that judging from the surveys in this connexion now being made at Basirhat town, the alignment proposed for the extension of the line will be such as to pass over a number of Musalman grave yards. The fear that the graves of their forefathers will be desecrated, has greatly agitated the minds of the Musalman townspeople of Basirhat, and they have sent up petitions on this subject both to the Bengal Government and to the District Magistrate of 24-Parganas. They further deputed Khan Bahadur Gholam Kasim to interview Mr. R. N. Mukerjee, of Calcutta, one of the partners of Messrs. Martin and Company.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 22nd, 1905.

24. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July reports that on the evening of the 19th July last a young lady of a respectable family was cut down by a passing train while attempting to cross the Railway line in the vicinity of the distant signal post between the Belgharia and Agarpara stations on the Eastern Bengal State Railway. Reference is also made to a similar accident at the same spot on the 2nd July previous. It is suggested, that to prevent accidents like these in future, the railway authorities should close to the use of the public the jungle-grown pathway along the railway line which extends from Belgharia station to the signal post above referred to, and which is now made use of by a large number of people as providing a short cut to their destinations.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 25th, 1905.

25. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th July notices in connexion with the three recent cases at Meerut, Khargpur and Saran of outraging female modesty on Indian Railways that the offender in each case was an Eurasian employé of the railway concerned. How can the railway authorities satisfactorily explain that in all such cases, from the notorious instance of Luson of Asansol to the latest instance of Isaac of Saran, the accused happen to be Eurasians and railway employés?

The paper next makes certain suggestions for the prevention of such outrages in future:—

(1) One suggestion is to discontinue the existing system of setting up entire carriages for the special use of females, and instead to introduce a system by which one or two compartments in each carriage should be marked off for the use of females, the rest being left as now open to the use of males. The advantage of this plan is that under it, female compartments should alternate with male compartments, instead of being at one end of the train as now. Males escorting females will thus have the means of travelling in compartments in close proximity to their charges.

(2) At present each train carries a brakesman, who is usually a half educated Hindusthani, on poor pay, and who naturally stands in fear of the European guard. He should be replaced by a strong-limbed and educated native as an assistant guard, who should act as a check on the Eurasian or European guard when the latter threatens to become offensive to Indian females.

DAILY HITAVADI,

26. The same paper publishes a letter complaining about the working of the ferries which have been established by Government since last year in the vicinity of Khedjree in the Contai sub-division over the estuary of the Hooghly. It is alleged that the ferry-men are incompetent for their work, the boats are in a rickety condition and are overloaded, with resultant loss to life and property. Attention is drawn in this connexion to an accident which occurred from this cause on the 6th July last, when over a hundred men and seven or eight heads of cattle lost their lives. In conclusion it is suggested that the introduction of a service of steamers instead of the existing boats would diminish the danger of such accidents occurring in future.

(h)—General.

27. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 18th July publishes a correspondence containing the resolutions passed in a meeting held at Sherpur in the Mymensingh district

A protest meeting.

to protest against the partition of Bengal.

CHARU MIHIR,
July 18th, 1905.

28. The *Charu Mihir* [Calcutta] of the 18th July writes as follows:—

The Partition of Bengal.

Lord Curzon has shown to a whole nation a degree of contempt and disrespect which it would seem impossible for one person to show to another. The Bengali nation would not have received this sort of treatment from the Government if the latter believed that the Bengalis possessed even a grain of manliness. Lord Curzon is no doubt making a great show of his power by pointing out to the Indians that it is useless for them, weak as they are, to protest against the wishes of English officials. But His Excellency is far from doing a service to the British Empire by such action. Since the beginning of British rule in India the people of the country had strong faith in the honesty of their rulers' intentions and actions, and although this faith was subsequently greatly shaken, it had never altogether disappeared from the land. The Indians also believed that however oppressive the officials in India might be, the Secretary of State for India would never approve of their acts of oppression, and that the English would never interfere in matters concerning their religion and society. But the partition of Bengal has destroyed this long cherished faith of the Indian people in the British Government. It has shown that an English Viceroy can, if he desires, disregard the opinions of crores of Indians, divide a nation into as many parts as he likes, and insult the inhabitants of a whole province without leaving any possibility of redress by England. It is for the first time that the Indians witness the spectacle of a Secretary of State for India disregarding the plaintive cries and supplications of a whole nation in order to make an exhibition of the power of a Viceroy. We are no doubt a weak and dependent nation, or why should we be deprived of all high privileges in our own country and obliged to lead lives of penury and distress? But still we are human beings and have the joys and sorrows, the hopes and ambitions which are felt and cherished by all men. We have lived too long under British rule and have seen enough of the Governor-General's power during a period of a century and a half to require fresh examples of such a power. The high merit which the English nation would have earned by leading the fallen and degraded Indians to the path of prosperity can never be attained by it by following a system of government based on mere physical force which only serves to produce the most pernicious effects. The system of repression which the Government is at present following in regard to the Indians has not the power to establish its ascendancy over them. On the contrary, it is increasing their strength of mind and their spirit of national unity, and teaching them to sacrifice personal for national interests. History furnishes no instance of a nation permanently subjugated by a system of hard repressive rule. Hard rule teaches men, whether civilised or uncivilised, to guard and protect their self-interest. India never showed an eagerness to receive such teaching, and it is Lord Curzon who is responsible for its introduction in the land. This is not the time when we should allow ourselves to be overpowered by the calamity which has befallen us. If we resolve to be united, Government will never be able to divide us.

CHARU MIHIR.

There are some Englishmen who are of opinion that the pillars of British rule in India consist of guns and bayonets, and we know what they mean. But statesmen like Lord Curzon hold quite different views. They believe, and they believe correctly, that the main support of British rule in India is the goodwill which the Indians bear to British system of Government. The Indians even believe that God has sent the English to rule them for their regeneration. But this belief is being shaken by every act of Lord Curzon. By disregarding the unanimous protest of the entire Bengali-speaking nation in the partition affair he has, in a manner, proclaimed that the English have no right to remain in India but by the force of arms. There are some flatterers of Lord Curzon who compare him with Lord Dalhousie. Although Lord Dalhousie was an able and talented Viceroy, yet it was his sinister administrative policy which

gave birth to a widespread discontent and alarm in the country. Almost the same thing can be said of Lord Curzon, whose administrative policy is looked upon with deep suspicion, sorrow and despair by the Indians.

The failure of the agitation against the partition scheme has convinced the Bengalis of the utter uselessness of such agitations. So long as they had faith in the liberal traditions of the British Government, they did not give up political agitation in spite of repeated failures. But Lord Curzon has dealt a severe blow at this faith and given the people to understand that it is useless to waste their energy by constitutional agitations. So long they used to speak out their minds to the Government, but henceforth they will allow their feelings to work in the dark, and that will probably be a source of serious danger to the Government. Lord Curzon is therefore not only doing a great injury to Bengal, but he is also laying the axe at the root of the British rule in India.

BARISAL HITAISHI,
July 19th, 1905.

29. Referring to the threat of the *Sanjivani* of the 13th July [noticed in paragraph 30, Report of Native Papers for the week ending the 22nd July 1905] to the effect that the

The Partition question.

Bengali people should, as a protest against the partition scheme, boycott all English goods and shun all contact with officials and official bodies until the scheme is withdrawn, the *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 19th July writes:—

Should we regard these threats as mere exaggerations or as real ones? Will the day in truth ever dawn when the Bengali people will make a united effort and devote themselves body and soul to the carrying out of the threats referred to above? If such a day ever does dawn, then on that day hundreds of partition proposals will prove utterly abortive. But do the Bengalis possess the strength of body and mind possessed by the Chinese? Will the Bengalis be able to imitate the Chinese in their boycott of foreign goods? If they can, then the path lies clear before them. Let the zamindars and wealthier classes not pay any subscriptions for the reception of the Prince of Wales, and let them in a body resign all honorary official appointments they now hold. As regards the suggestion about sending 50 delegates to England in this connexion, our advice is that the suggestion should be carefully weighed. Where is any chance of victory for us among the English public? It would be a mere waste of strength.

JASOHAR,
July 19th, 1905.

30. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 19th July has the following reference to the partition question:—

The Partition question.

How much oppression by the invincible Pathans, how many terrible invasions by the Moguls, how many outrages by the *Bargis* (Mahratta freebooters), how much treachery by traitors have passed over the all suffering land of Bengal. The annals of this province have not been able to keep a record of those events, but history will record for all time in letters of fire the fact that in this 20th century when civilisation has reached its utmost development under the brilliant administration of Lord Curzon, during the period of the country's contact and intercourse with the enlightened British people, and at a time which is for the country its record epoch, a flaming thunderbolt from the political sky has been hurled at its devoted head. Bengalis will not forget, Hindus and Musalmans will not forget, how the thousand times repeated prayer of a thousand hearts is rejected and cast away at one stroke of the autocrat's whip. How can we write more. Our pen refuses to move. We stand today past even the limit of crying. oh God!

JASOHAR.

31. A correspondent writing to the same paper gives a short account of the powerful agitation made against indigo oppression in Jessore half a century ago, and calls upon

The Partition question.

all sections of the community of Jessore, the zamindars, the shop-keepers, the professional men, the students, the masses, &c., to unite and muster in Jessore town to express before the local District Magistrate the feeling of distress which the news of the impending partition of Bengal has produced in their minds. Let the mingled tears of the Jessore public unite in washing the feet of the District Magistrate, and he may then be relied upon to do his duty in this connexion. It is urged in conclusion that the Jessore people must show to the other districts of Bengal that the life which they possessed some time ago has not yet ceased to animate them.

32. The *Sri Sri Vishnu priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 20th July writes as follows with reference to the partition scheme:—

The Partition question.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
July 20th, 1905,

We do not claim to know what deep hidden designs Government may have. But the ostensible argument in favour of this scheme is that it is not desirable to place the charge of 80 millions people on the shoulders of one Lieutenant-Governor. If this argument furnishes the real reason for the partition, then what can be the special advantage of a scheme which places 50 millions in one charge and 30 millions in the other? We wish to make a new suggestion in this connexion. Let the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions be amalgamated with the new province, let Bihar go to the United Provinces, and let Orissa go to Madras. This is a scheme which will at once reduce the population in charge of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and will further make no dissatisfaction among the public. But the objections to this scheme are that it does away with what is expected to be gained by splitting up the united Bengali people into two, and also that it does not provide for the creation of new births for the support of a number of Europeans. Some people are of opinion that it is precisely for these reasons that the partition of Bengal has become urgently necessary.

Of the 21 Bengali-speaking districts now existing on the map, only eight or nine will remain with West Bengal. So the Bengali-speaking population will be in a minority in the old Province. Besides, West Bengal will also suffer since East Bengal is the home of the majority of the wealthy men of the Province. Let the inhabitants of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions therefore pray to Government for union with the new Province.

33. A correspondent of the same paper writes:—

The Partition scheme.

It is true that the partition scheme is one that will injure the interests of the country as a whole. But considering the stories of oppression which are told against certain zamindars of East Bengal, and considering also how brutal outrages are on the increase, among the low-class people in Mymensingh, the proposal to place a just Lieutenant-Governor in the centre of this area of oppression is not a bad one. Some zamindars in that part of the country fine their tenants by subjecting them to imprisonment without justification, harass them in various ways, and sometimes get them assaulted by hired *lathials*. There is another class of oppressive and uneducated zamindars who transfer all their powers to the village *patwaris*, who in their hour, fill their own purses at the expense of the raiyats. The foolish zamindar in these cases takes no measures to check his agent. The raiyats in East Bengal are often harassed out of their lives by oppressions like these. Hopes of justice in such cases there are none, for a weak tenant cannot expect any good from a law-suit against the all-powerful zamindar. Though no names are given by the correspondent the statements made by him are true to the letter.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA.

34. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th July publishes a cartoon in which a European with a smiling face is represented as sawing vertically a Bengali woman dressed like a

A Cartoon.

Hindu widow, her life-blood flowing out in a torrent from the edge of the saw. With her fist clenched and lips pressed together in great agony she is shown as calmly resigning herself to her fate. Another European is represented as standing near by and laughing heartily at the sight, whilst some Indians look as if greatly agitated and incensed by the scene.

The letterpress is—"The Partition of Mother Bengal."

SANJIVANI
July 20th, 1905.

35. The same paper publishes an account of a public meeting held at Bagirhat on the 17th idem in which resolutions were passed expressing grief and dissatisfaction at

Protest meetings.

SANJIVANI.

the partition of Bengal, and pointing out the advisability of making a determination to refrain, according to suggestions made by the *Sanjivani* in a previous issue (see Report on Native Papers, for the week ending the 22nd July 1905, paragraph 30), from purchasing foreign articles wherever possible, and from taking part in such matters as welcoming or giving farewell to officials. Short accounts in English are also given of two other protest meetings at Jalpaiguri and Pabna.

SANJIVANI.

36. The same paper which appears with black borders as a sign of mourning on account of the partition of Bengal, publishes part of a letter written by the Head

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Master of the Cuttack Victoria High English School to an acquaintance of his enquiring whether the writer should withdraw the premia paid by him to a foreign Life Insurance Company on a life-policy, as he no longer likes to pay money to a foreign firm, and now desires to insure his life in a native firm, like the Empire of India Life Insurance Company. The Editor says that when there are three native Life Insurance Companies in India, educated Indians should, after the partition of Bengal, resolve not to insure their lives in foreign companies.

SANJIVANI.

37. The same paper writes as follows:—

Official obstinacy.

Our rulers are even as some wayward children who would never do what their parents bid them to do and would hasten to do that which they forbid. Let no one suppose that we mean by this that our rulers are as foolish as these foolish children. On the contrary, they are but too clever. Our rulers may retort that it is not they who are perversely obstinate, but we who are morbidly sentimentals that like children, we do not know what is good and what is bad for us, that like wise guardians they often thwart us for our own good. But our ruler, know better than ourselves how false this defence is. If they had given us credit for no more wisdom or intelligence they would not have been at such pains to make the sharp knife of Indian administration sharper and sharper, and they would not have felt the need of passing a Sedition Act.

The reason of this obstinacy of the officials is not far to seek. The reason lies in their arrogant consciousness of their own power and importance and of the weakness and insignificance of the Indian people.

True it is that it is not in our power to undo anything that the officials may have done. But it is difficult for us to preserve our cheerfulness under such perverse obstinacy on their part. Therefore it is that we get angry and our anger finds expression in our writings and speeches. This irritates the officials, so that they seek to keep a Damocles' sword hanging over us in the shape of a sedition law, forgetting that the tongue is the only weapon that the oppressed weak has to use against the strong oppressor.

This feeling of dissatisfaction against the officials is, however, of recent growth. So far from there having been any such feeling formerly, the establishment of British rule in India was once pronounced by men of light and leading in this country as a dispensation of Providence.

We may, in one sense, rightly regard British rule in this country as such a dispensation. We shall always remain grateful to our English rulers for English education, if for nothing else. In this priest and caste-ridden country, the inferior castes had been sinking more and more in the depths of moral and intellectual degradation, when English education came as a renovating force and permeating, like light and air, every part of the community, leavened the whole Indian people, raising at once the literary, religious, social and political ideals of the people and creating a feeling of nationality among them.

But English education which has elevated us and created in us a sense of nationality has also raised in us aspirations. We demand higher rights, powers and functions to find scope for, and to further develop, our education and capabilities.

The highminded English statesmen who introduced English education among us also contemplated the transfer of a large share of the administration to us with our increasing knowledge and fitness. But the very reverse of this generous spirit would seem to dominate the minds of the narrow-minded officials of these days. It would seem as if they are determined to meet the importunity of our demands with an unswerving degree of obstinate firmness, and to refuse all our prayers on pleas of our sentimentality and of our not being aware of what is good or bad for ourselves. They know full well that none of our demands are unreasonable. They know that the appointment of an experienced native Civilian like Mr. R. C. Dutt as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal would have improved the administration and conciliated the people without in any way endangering British supremacy. A native Lieutenant-Governor,

for instance, would have been able to enter into the feelings of the people about the partition question, and would not have scouted those feelings as mere sentimentality. Again, if members of the type of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, Babu Ambica Charan Majumdar and Mr. Gokhale had formed the majority of the Viceregal Council, the injustice and oppression now seen in the country would have, in a great measure, ceased to exist. And if the Civil Service Examination had been held in India many a talented native youth, instead of moping about, would have found a fit field for the exercise of their faculties and devoted themselves to the service of their country with cheerful hearts.

But not to speak of new rights like these, even such rights as we have been enjoying for a long time are now being filched from us. We know not at what evil moment Lord Curzon set foot in India. So proud is he of his office and of his power that he is found to disregard the united agitation and supplication of the Indians as no predecessor of his was ever seen to do. First of all, he laid the axe at the root of Self-Government by approving of the Calcutta Municipal Act. He next inaugurated a policy of favouritism to Eurasians in employment in the public service and thereby closed offices of high emoluments to natives. He then passed the Universities Act loosening thereby the foundations of high education in the country. Next he abolished the Executive Service Examination, and thereby dashed the hopes of educated native youths to the ground. Not content with all this he is now about to dismember Bengal.

How are we to preserve our cheerfulness under these circumstances? We are no savage people devoid of self-respect. If we had known that there was anarchy in Bengal from so large a country being placed under the charge of one ruler, and that the people were disturbing Government by persistent clamours, we should have seen that it was the duty of Government to dismember Bengal in disregard of all cost, all dissatisfaction, and all opposition. But it is nothing of the kind. On the contrary, if we set aside police oppression and a few cases of theft and dacoity, the administration of Bengal must be pronounced to be conducted in an orderly manner. And yet the officials are going to dismember this province and separating brother from brother, in utter disregard of our clamour. What are we to think of this?

38. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 21st July says that the partition of Bengal will have the effect of only providing a number of Europeans and draining the wealth of

The Partition of Bengal.

SAMAY,
July 21st, 1905.

poor India.

39. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July publishes a cartoon in which an elephant is represented as being maltreated in diverse ways by a number of Europeans and natives.

A Cartoon.

HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

Of the Europeans, one is striking the animal with a dagger, another driving a chisel into its body with a mallet, a third as having plunged a javelin into its flesh, and the rest as baiting it with their lances. Of the natives, one is striking it with a goad, another as sawing through its trunk which a third is represented as holding, while a fourth is shown as torturing the animal with a lance. The letter press is as follows:—

Awake, awake, O elephant.

You are bearing kicks passively. The *mahut* is striking you on the head with a goad.

And does not give you enough to eat. Still there is no sensation in your frame which is incapable of sensation.

Your ribs and chest are about to break;

Awake, awake, O elephant.

They have cut off your trunk. And how horridly have they deformed your head,

By striking you with the goad of dismemberment.

They have broken your teeth in no time.

Awake, awake, O elephant.

40. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July (which appears with black borders) publishes in Bengali the substance of the recent Government Resolution on the

The Partition question.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

Partition Question.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

41. In noticing the statement which occurs in the recent Government Resolution on the Partition scheme to the effect that that scheme has obtained the unanimous assent of all the high Government officials of Bengal, the same paper writes:—

The Partition question.

So far as we know it is our firm belief that the Partition scheme in the form now sanctioned was never put before the officials for their opinions. Does the Government expect that people will quietly submit to be blinded, whenever Government wishes to throw dust in their eyes by resorting to tricks of words like these? The fact is that the Lieutenant-Governor suggested the separation of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, and also of the Pabna, Bogra and Rangpur districts. It was on this scheme and on the previous one outlined in Mr. Risley's letter that the Government officials in Bengal were actually consulted. And the scheme which is now sanctioned, and which grew out of Sir A. Fraser's scheme referred to above, was matured and finally sanctioned by the Government of India completely behind the backs of the high officials of the Bengal Government.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 23rd, 1905.

42. Under the heading "Our Duty", the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July, writes:—

The Partition question.

Whatever the system which Government may introduce in order to gain their own ends, if the people of West Bengal retain one spark of sympathy with the people of East Bengal, the time has now come actually to show it. In a conquered country, the interests of the rulers and the ruled can never be one. Knowing that it will do us the greatest harm, and in defiance of the piteous appeals of 70 million people, the Government has partitioned Bengal in order to gain their own objects. We do not know what end of the Government's will be gained by this partition. But this we do know, that this scheme will place a serious obstacle in the path of our future national progress. If now, following in the footsteps of our rulers, we try to differentiate West Bengal from East in everything, then all hopes of our national advancement will be gone for ever. The time has come for us to show our real manliness. Now will come the proof of what sort of spirit and strength of mind we possess. If our country is split up into two, we must accept the official arrangement, as loyal subjects must accept all Government measures, but we shall none the less try heart and soul to preserve the unity of the race. All nations on the face of the earth are on the road to progress, and their example incites in our minds a like ambition. But whether or not we possess the strength to advance will be put to the test now. If we can of our own strength keep in a close embrace the brethren whom Government would separate from us, then that would justify the hope that a time may yet come when all India will be a united country. We demand rights equal to those enjoyed by the colonists, but whether we shall ever gain those rights or not will be proved now.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 24th, 1905.

43. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th July writes as follows in the course of an article headed "What course is left to us?"

What is left for us to do now? What can the poor subjects say against what it has pleased the King or his representative to do? Let, O master, your wishes be fulfilled. Let glory cover you. May you, when you return to your own country, boast before your countrymen that you have achieved what no one else could achieve, that you have performed what Alexander, Napoleon and Cæsar did not venture to do—what Akbar, Aurangzeb and Charlemagne hesitated to attempt—that is to say, that you have slighted, nay trampled under your foot, eighty millions of your civilised subjects by turning a deaf ear to their representations. You are a man who has made a name for himself. May your name acquire more glory and may victory wait upon you. The lesson you have taught us to-day has brought us to our senses. We praise you and we bless you, because it is through your favour that we have come to realise our real condition. May you live long in health to witness the fruit of your action, and to see what path we pursue in consequence of the lesson you have taught us.

The lesson you have taught us has made us realise that, though we may pass the Civil Service Examination held in England and be placed at the

top of the list of successful candidates, we are nothing but uncivilised, illiterate boors. We have now learnt that though we clothe our dark bodies in the costumes of our rulers and deliver the fieriest and the most eloquent speeches in their language, we are nothing but the most worthless and insignificant worms and insects that live upon the earth. We have learnt that whether we become members of the Viceroy's Council or gain seats in the Lieutenant-Governor's Council, whether we become Chief Justices of the High Court or Divisional Commissioners and Members of the Board of Revenue, we are still the most hated and slighted, the meanest and the most cowardly people on the face of the earth. It is because the authorities have come to see us in our true light that the piteous amentations of seventy millions of Bengalis have not moved their hearts, and they have walked roughshod over the breasts of millions of Bengalis, breaking the latter's ribs into pieces with their English boots with as little concern as we display every day in trampling under our feet thousands of worms and insects. And they have done this in order to serve their own interests and to maintain their *aid*. Therefore, we ask you, Bengalis, to forget, for the moment, your own pain and anoint the feet of the authorities with oil, lest the feet of the white men might have been pained in kicking at the bodies of the black men.

You the Rajas, the Maharajas, the Rai Bahadurs, the C.I.E'S., and the other titled millionaires of Bengal, do you now see what honour you have gained by gratifying with *backsish* the orderlies at Government House and Belvedere and at the Commissioner's and the Magistrate's *bungalows*? Do you see now what honour attaches to the titles conferred by the King? You might say that as you did not join the meeting held to protest against the partition of Bengal, the Government's action means no slight for you. May be that you have not yourselves been slighted. But is not an insult offered to the Bengalis, whose spokesmen you profess to be, and whom you call your kith and kin, an insult offered to you?

What are we to do now? Shall we again collect money to anoint the feet of white men with oil? Shall we, by agitation, make another effort to win the kindness of the white men? or shall we pursue some other course? Shall we, taking the dispensation of Government with all respect, seek out a new path for ourselves? The utmost has been done in the way of collecting subscriptions and spending them in a foreign land. Will it not be better now, instead of relying upon any agitation in England, to seek out some other path? We know that England is, in reality, governed by merchants. If we fail to move the white men by a direct and straightforward course, may we not try, for once, to move the merchants of England? It won't require much from us. If we can, by some means or other, but once move the weavers of Manchester, they will perform an impossible feat. All that we have got to do is to take a firm resolution not to use Manchester piece-goods and to commence to carry our resolution into effect. We shall then find that we require no more raising of subscriptions, no more sending of delegates to England for agitating them. The Manchester weavers will achieve an impossible feat, will unite the divided Bengal.

44. The same paper has the following:—

The Partition question.

After the withdrawal of the original scheme for partition, no opportunity was given to the public to discuss the second scheme; nor did the Government consider it necessary to consult the leading men of Bengal on it. The truth is, that Lord Curzon had made up his mind to partition Bengal. He, therefore, secretly followed a crooked policy in maturing his project. Our shrewd Lieutenant-Governor, too, all along said ditto. And, at last, they have succeeded. Trampling the language, the social ties and the history of the province under their feet, and slighting the heartfelt protests and piteous wails of its inhabitants, the authorities with a proud heart have carried out their resolution. Lord Curzon's wishes have been fulfilled. But will the nostrum of the partition of Bengal relieve the pang and the heart-burning caused to his lordship by the shaft of humiliation driven through his heart in England itself, that home of Imperialism, in connection with the military administration controversy?

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 24th, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1905.

45. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July says that the Bengalis should unite in boycotting articles manufactured in England. If they cannot avoid using all English articles, they should avoid using at least cotton cloths among them, so long as the partition of Bengal stands. If the interests of Manchester weavers are interfered with, the Government of India will most probably be obliged to give way.

RATNAKAR,
July 22nd, 1905.

46. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 22nd July writes with reference to the partition scheme :—

The Partition question.

The Indians are an inoffensive and loyal race, who know very well that the very thought of any conspiracy of any sort against the King is a sin. But is that any reason why the English should, by acts like these, cause them the most heart-rending agony? Are not the English aware that everything has a limit, and that therefore the patience of the Indian people also has a limit? Do the English imagine that the Indians, if oppressed and trampled under foot, will silently put up with it all for ever? If the proud English people, under the influence of any such impression, go on increasing the degree of oppression on the Indians, then in a very short while, they will be able to see their mistake in the disquieting results that will ensue. The people of India have borne much; but it seems as if no more can be borne. Under repeated harassments, even the inoffensive man can become dangerous. It is the goading oppression of their rulers which has driven the entire Russian nation to-day to make a stand against their Government. And it was in consequence of the oppression of Government and the neglect of its duties by Government that even the inoffensive Indian people brought about the formidable rising known as the sepoy mutiny.

What is the duty of the Bengali people in this day of terrible calamity? Brethren of Bengal, why do you attempt to argue and take your tale of sorrow before one who is as a step-mother? With the English, the mere weeping for grief has never yet done any good nor ever will. But if you wish to forget the agony which you are now passing through, if you wish to find a remedy for all such ills in future, then unite and make a resolve never, as far as possible, to use any article of English make, never to subscribe to any fund at the request of officials, never to join any official meeting, corporation or Council, and never to take part in any official festivities. We are a race of conquered slaves kissing the dust of others' feet, what business have we to join in any festivities inaugurated by high officials? We do not wish to take part in any act of the Government's; we wish to have no concern with them at all. We are a race of sorrowing conquered people, we will silently weep the tears of the sorrow-laden that shall moisten the feet of the sorrowing mother who represents the land of our birth. We shall quietly unite ourselves and manage to live on the food and clothing produced in our own country. What can we gain by joining in politics or by licking the feet of others in hopes of gaining favours from Government?

DACCA PRAKAS,
July 23rd, 1905.

47. In connexion with the partition scheme, the *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 23rd July expresses the opinion that the fact that as a result of agitation the original

The Partition question.

scheme of separating the districts of Dacca and Mymensingh and the Chittagong Division has given place to a more comprehensive scheme for including a much larger number of Bengali-speaking districts in the new Province, suggests a hope that if a proper agitation can be got up and arguments based on considerations of common social usages and a common language be properly put forward, then the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions also may be included in the new province. If once the condition as to all Bengali-speaking peoples being under the same Government is satisfied, any other change which Government might make will excite no opposition. It is not at all politic to refrain from further agitation in view of the firm attitude now being maintained by Government.

DACCA GAZETTE,
July 24th, 1905.

48. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 24th July writes as follows in its English columns :—

The Partition question.

The resolution of the Government of India on the partition of Bengal has cast a gloom of melancholy over the land. For the last few weeks the Bengal atmosphere was saturated with all sorts

of ugly reports regarding the scheme, but the people who did what was constitutionally possible for them to do, could not for a moment believe that the Government of Lord Curzon, so benign, would press the partition in the teeth of so much popular opposition. But the worst has happened, and the people have been sadly disillusioned. They are now face to face with a measure for which they have not at all been prepared. The resolution is a lengthy and elaborate document in which attempts have been made to lull the storm of popular indignations, but the arguments, so seemingly cogent and effete, have all fallen flat and been found wanting. Fallacy is sometimes triumphant but everything has a limit; and it cannot, in our humble opinion, be conveniently used in the effacement of a nation socially, intellectually and linguistically.

49. Referring to the partition of Bengal, the same paper says that the plaintive petition of a whole nation has been sacrificed for Lord Curzon's *sid*. It may be that the Bengalis are weak and cowardly, but it bespeaks only want of sympathy with them to suppose that the agitation which they carried against the partition scheme was worthless and unsubstantial. If an agitation is not to be supposed of any value unless it is backed by the use of physical force, then surely no agitation in this country will be considered of any worth. Loyalty is a native instinct of the Indian people, and it will never forsake them.

DACCA GAZETTE,
July 24th, 1905.

50. Referring to the partition of Bengal, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 24th July writes as follow:—

SANDHYA,
July 24th, 1905.

"The right path."

We have long been saying that prayers and petitions are useless. One can never prosper on charity. In a meeting recently held at Dinajpur, the President, Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose, advised all native members of Legislative Councils, Honorary Magistrates, Municipal Commissioners, and members of District Boards and Union Panchayats to resign, and the whole Bengali nation to wear mourning and abstain from all joyous ceremonies on this occasion of a great national calamity. It is a happy news that the Maharajah of Dinajpur and Rai Saheb Radha Gobinda Roy joined the meeting. Our leaders should lose no time in taking up the suggestions made by Mr. Ghose and thereby showing the right path to the general public.

We are loyal subjects, and we shall show proper loyalty to our Sovereign. But why should we sacrifice our manliness and moral principles in order to please officials? What is the use of becoming members of Legislative Councils if derision and insulting replies are given to interpellations in them and the opinions of the representatives of the people are never acted upon? The Prince of Wales is coming to India. If many people have already paid subscriptions for showing loyalty to His Royal Highness that cannot be helped now. But show your loyalty like men in danger, oppressed and mourning. Do not be niggardly in giving to the sovereign what is his due. But do not forget yourselves and take part in festivities and amusements.

51. Referring to the partition of Bengal, the *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 25th July says:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
July 25th, 1905.

The Partition of Bengal.

All cries, petitions and supplications have gone in vain. Lord Curzon's *sid* has been maintained. A Government resolution sanctioning the partition has been published. The white gods will hardly rejoice at the shedding of the life-blood of Bengal.

52. Enclosed in black borders, the *Pratiya* [Calcutta] of the 26th July has the following article under the heading "The dropping of the curtain":—

PRATIYA,
July 26th, 1905.

The Partition question.

Heedless of the heart-rending cries and anguished wails of the people, ignoring the reasoned opinions of all sections of the public, trampling under foot the piteous appeals of all, the independent Englishman has acted independently; the curtain at last drops on the stage, Lord Curzon's desire is fulfilled, the main limb of Bengal is severed by the stroke of a terrible instrument, and Bengal is left shorn of its beauty.

The British Government has deliberately turned a deaf ear to the anguished protests of seventy million voices. It has shown the height of arbitrariness and maintained its *sid*. As for the people of Bengal, that unfortunate, helpless, inoffensive and dependent race, they have got only the fitting reward of their

genuine loyalty, 'beggars for a handful of alms at the hand of Government as as they were. In these days of Western civilization, the British Government, puffed up as it is with the pride of Empire, has astounded all India by ignoring the strength and authority of its subjects and by disgracing the proper conception of the duties of Government. That is why all India stands to-day speechless, pulseless and silent. And who can say whether in the midst of this silence, some new strength is not being created and fostered?

We knew that we could not hope for any improvement under the rule of the British, careful as they are to preserve their own interests, when we heard the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 dismissed as a piece of "political hypocrisy, when we heard the disgraceful sentence uttered from the lips of an English Prime Minister that "India must be bled," when we saw pieces of legislation being enacted which in principle set aside questions of competency or otherwise, and instead created special barriers based on race and colour.

On all sides of the country there is plague and famine, on all sides are to be heard the cries of despair and the sighs of sorrow; on all sides is to be noticed the growth of the terrible power of the demon of poverty. On the wake of all this comes this unexpected political thunderstroke which has left all classes of the public harassed, faint and at a loss to determine what to do. The people of Bengal are now being mercilessly harried in consequence of their subjection to present-day English rule, which is opposed to that conception of the duties of Government which regards the preservation of the rights of the subjects as the wisest policy of a ruler. Who is there to-day to listen to the piteous wailing of the tax-ridden, poverty-stricken and oppressed subjects, and to give them the necessary redress?

Petitions never produced any satisfactory results yet, and never will. This is a lesson which is being taught to us at every step, and which we can see to be true from past experience. What then is the remedy? Where is the redress for all this? What is the path which is sure to lead to salvation? Tell us this—oh leaders of our society—give us this light—for once give up the idle flow of language couched in a tone of mingled loyalty and pitiful weeping and begging—and indicate to us what is the way that will lead us to redress. What is the path in which lies hid the truth that will lead to our salvation? That pure and mild light, coloured with the hues of the early dawn on the east, does not that light indicate that true path? Does not that light enable one to recognise that path? Does not that light make plain to our vision the truth that will lead to our salvation? Look, look with more attention!!!

Why again? Why like travellers who have lost their way, tread any more paths which are opposed to all good policy. Give up making petitions; you have had practical experience of the good of it. The curtain has already dropped on this play; prepare yourselves in the oriental style for a new performance. Give up buffoonery, and devote yourselves heart and soul to your own religion in order to preserve your self-respect. Our appeals will never reach the ears of our model civilized rulers. Weak as you are cease making ridiculous demands about granting us rights. Rather advance on the path of duty under the impulse of a sense of duty.

Leaders of our society, give up the tone of pitiful wailings. Purified by the warm and profuse flow of blood from the deep wound of your mother-country, embrace all sections of the people of India as brethren, make the educated and the uneducated, the old and the young, acquainted with the condition of the country, and devote yourselves to your country's education and instruction. The strength of the rulers and the strength of the ruled stand face to face to-day—who can say what will be the sequel of it? Who can say for the performance of what new play the very curtain which drops to-day on the political stage of Bengal may rise again?

53. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 20th July complains of the mismanage-

ment of the reserve forests in the Chittagong district. Only the worst officers of the Forest Department are sent to reserve forests. Young rangers do not know how to manage them, and consequently these forests are ruined. The Kachalang reserve forest in the Chittagong Hill Tract, is an excellent property, but there is at present no ranger in it. The present Forest Officer in Chittagong is very indifferent to the interests of reserve ranges, and

JYOTI,
July 20th, 1905.

under him none of them has got a ranger. It has been proved that on account of the want of proper supervision much of the lands of the Kachalang forest is occupied by the local people. The Forest Officer and the rangers under him are always busy with revenue forests. The reserve forests are rarely visited by rangers. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

54. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th July says:—

Lord Curzon and the Indian Military administration question.

Lord Curzon has been defeated in the Kitchener-Elles controversy. Henceforth the Commander-in-Chief will be the sole ruler of the Military Department in India. But still Lord Curzon would not resign the Viceroyalty. By remaining in India he will have to make arrangements with his own hands for depriving the Government of India of its powers over the Military Department and vesting them in the Commander-in-Chief.

SANJIVANI,
July 20th, 1905.

55. In noticing the modifications in the system of Army Government

The question of the higher administration of the Indian army.

proposed by the Government of India and accepted by Mr. Brodrick, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 20th July writes:—

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
July 20th, 1905.

We are amazed that Lord Curzon is satisfied with these modifications. What new guarantees of safety are created by them? Judged impartially, these modifications ought not to be regarded as modifications at all. Do they remove all the causes for grave apprehension which Lord Curzon foresaw in the original scheme? Lord Curzon held out the threat of resignation. No man has understood better than Lord Curzon what a precious thing the Indian Viceroyalty is to the holder of the office. Lord Curzon has attempted somehow or other to save his own face, after obtaining the acquiescence of Lord Kitchener, but will that give any consolation to his heart of hearts? Perhaps it has been the lot of no previous Viceroy to be humiliated as he has been in the present controversy. Lord Curzon keeps his heart's distress to himself, and is merely making a feint of exultation for the public to see. His Excellency has our complete sympathy in his present distress. We are afraid that a strong military rule really will be established all over India.

56. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July has the following:—

Lord Curzon.

From the manner in which the dispute between Lord Kitchener and Lord Curzon in the matter of Army Reorganization scheme has ended, it seems that Lord Curzon can bear up against all humiliation for the sake of the Indian Viceroyalty and that he will never resign it of his own accord. The Indians were against his re-appointment. During the present term he has done great injury to India and lost his own reputation. During his first term he saw the great pomp and splendour of the Delhi Durbar, but in the second it vanished into the thin air. He abused the Indians and was abused by them in public meetings. Lord Curzon is the only Viceroy whose rule has been condemned by the Indians at public meetings. His defeat in the political combat with Lord Kitchener has totally ruined his prestige. The result of friction with Mr. Brodrick has yet to be seen.

BHARAT MITRA,
July 22nd, 1905.

57. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July writes as follows:—

Lord Curzon's administration.

History will record Lord Curzon's administration as the reign of despotism in India, and it will ever be proclaimed throughout the land that all his efforts were directed towards checking the noble ambitions of the Indians and working evil to them. In land legislation, the Universities Act, the Official Secrets Act, the Police Reform, Local Self-Government, the Sedition Law, the Universities (Validation) Act,—in all these and other things his reign has been conspicuous for the total disregard which it has shown for the educated public opinion in the country. It has also been marked that the more the people has opposed a scheme, the more eager and hasty has His Excellency been to carry it out. It was the strenuous opposition with which the partition scheme was received that led His Excellency to make a determination to carry it out.

HITAVADI,
July 21st, 1905.

58. Under the heading "*Jo Hukum*" the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July writes:—

Lord Curzon.

When Mr. Brodrick's despatch on the Army administration was received at Simla, a strong rumour arose in that town that unless the Viceroy's opinion carried the day, His Excellency would resign. We

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 22nd, 1905.

also thought that that would be the course worthy of a strong Viceroy. But no one could even dream that the sequel of all the bragging His Excellency made in loud roaring voice would be what it has been. Now we see that our Viceroy, expert in speech like an actor, as he is, was merely acting,—that his strength is only exhibited in oppressing the weak, in unjustly calumniating the fallen and tongue-tied Indians and in ascribing imaginary faults to them; and that strength was meaningless and useless when attempted to be applied to objects outside India.

We cannot confidently affirm that the mere resignation of his office by the Viceroy would have induced the Secretary of State to act according to His Excellency's view. But it is our belief none the less that such a resignation would have produced some effect that way. But did the Viceroy dare to resign? Lord Curzon is not an aspirant after the greatness which is conferred by self-sacrifice arising from strength of conviction, his "Occidental diplomacy" does not counsel such a course of action. He is now to carry out humbly the behests of his superiors in England. His Excellency may not now have formally resigned office, but his continuance in office henceforth is merely a name. Not distant is the day of departure from India of that political genius which first found expression in the Delhi Durbar, which attained growth in the Universities Act and the Official Secrets Act, which culminated in the Partition of Bengal, and which will soon shed their last rays in India in connexion with the forthcoming Royal tour and the establishment of the Victoria Memorial. But the people of India will never be able to forget his name. His acts, like red-hot pieces of iron have stamped his name on their minds. His name will never be erased from their minds. Bengal will never forget him, those unfortunate people will remember his name with sorrow for all time. Alas, brilliant Lord Curzon! when you first came to Bengal, the people of that province, with hearts laid under the spell of hope, expected only happiness at your hands, we could not imagine that such a sharp butcher's knife was hidden under the flow of honeyed words which fell from your lips.

BHARAT MITRA,
July 22nd, 1905.

59. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July says that the conduct of Mr. Ommaney recently transferred to Sylhet, has attracted the notice of the Chief Commissioner of Assam. The paper prays that Mr. Fuller will be pleased to transfer that officer with promotion to some European country, as the people there will be better able to stand his heavy sentences of whipping on account of their better physical strength.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
July 22nd, 1905.

60. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 22nd July has the following:—
The peoples' troubles. A multiplicity of troubles has quite confounded us. Miscarriages of justice, difficulties about education, proposal about the partition of language, troubles about the assessment of taxes and the partition scheme have all combined to bewilder us.

It is needless to say anything about miscarriages of justice. A white man is pleased to give a black man the reward of a blow, and the blow puts an end to the black man's life. Or a white man by art or force violates a black woman on a railway, in a jungle, underneath a bridge, in a field or in any other place and ruins and dishonours her for life. The result of the judicial trial in all such cases will be found to be a complete acquittal for the white man!

As for the police administration, all that is necessary to say is that police oppression has become quite harassing to the people at large. To take an instance or two. Somebody murdered the widowed daughter of a *Kaivarta*, resident of village Radhapur under the Syampur thana and left the dead body in a jungle. The Sub-Inspector of the thana, Babu Haradhan Mukherji, came with his followers to investigate the case. Failing, however, to find out the real culprit, he sent up an innocent Muhammadan youth in spite of the protest of the villagers about his innocence. The youth easily got acquitted at the sessions trial.

Only the other day a dacoity was committed in village Sasati within the jurisdiction of the same thana. The same Sub-Inspector sent up a number of innocent men for trial, but all of them got acquitted.

61. A correspondent writing from Ramnagar to the *Nihar* [Contai] of the 25th July complains that, in spite of the late reduction in the salt duties, the shop-keepers in that place are in some cases still selling salt at the old price. At the local Patna *Adi*, for instance, the price is 3 pice in the case of retail purchases and two pice in the case of every seer.

NIHAR,
July 25th, 1905.

62. It is rumoured, says the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July, that arrangements are being made for Government pensioners to take their pensions from police-stations. It is also rumoured that secret orders have been issued to police officers directing them to keep an eye on Government pensioners. Many people are, therefore, led to believe that these two measures are directly connected with each other. However that may be, it is not at all desirable that the police should be charged with the work of disbursing pensions. The people of the country dread the police, and it is not unlikely that the rumoured arrangements would afford the police opportunities to harass any Government pensioner it pleases.

The Police and Government pensioners.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1905.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

63. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 18th July writes:—

“Men of words.”

Our newspapers have threatened the Government and the threat is to the following effect: You wish to split up Bengal—such is your impudence—we shall show you the fun of it, we shall teach you a lesson. One contemporary has even gone so far as to proclaim a war. And what sort of a war?—a war of words. In every town and in every district meetings are to be held, canon-shots in the shape of words are to be fired off, as a result of which the English will seek the refuge of their home and there die. Those who have taken charge of guiding the politics of our country are mostly men with whom words are everything. Speech-making is the profession which they live by. Once you suggest to them to take to acts and give up words they at once prove backward.

SANDHYA,
July 18th, 1905.

When the Viceroy at the Convocation after inviting everybody to be present there, indulged in abuse, why did you not on that occasion protest then and there by leaving the meeting-hall? That would have been agitation in its true sense, it would have brought the Viceroy to his senses. One may concede that on this occasion the suddenness of the thing took you aback, that the idea of quitting the hall could not come to you on the spur of the moment. But on the later occasion how could you show your faces again in the Viceroy's Council, thereby humiliating the memory of your forefathers? Why did you not say—that the Viceroy had calumniated your countrymen and your ancestors, and that you would not attend the Council of such a man even on pain of death. Why did you not in solemn tones proclaim—Let the Viceroy either beg pardon for his offence, or let him accept our resignation. You are slaves accustomed to licking the feet of your superiors—do you possess that amount of courage? Real spirit you do not possess—the only thing you do possess is the capacity of pouring forth torrents of words in public meetings. After being abused, what did you do but to hold a Town-Hall meeting and send a complaint to England? The offender is an Englishman of influence, and the party to whom you appeal is the English nation. What could the English nation do—but send you away with a kick? What was the result of all this fuss? It only brought disgrace on yourselves. And if you could proudly resign your seats on the Viceregal Council then alone could the English to a certain extent have been brought to their knees. But you are slaves for generations, and you do not possess the smallest jot of strength.

Sometime before this incident of the Convocation speech, a terrible agitation was raised about the proposed University Reform. You talked yourselves hoarse, but nobody accepted your opinions. Why—you could easily have started a new University. What a beautiful spectacle it would have been to see the flag of oriental education flying side by side with the flag of the Western University. You will object that Government would not have recognised the new Institution. That is merely the language of madness. Conduct your indigenous University on proper lines, and you will see that not merely the Indian Government but much higher bodies like the Oxford and Cambridge

Universities will appreciate and honour your University. If all the more brilliant students in the country were to be educated through this new University, the Government would be compelled to regard the degrees of your University with respect. But you have no worth in you. After all the loud protests, the moment the Lieutenant-Governor mooted the Ranchi College scheme, lakhs of rupees began to flow in as subscriptions. What degradation! And the protest against the Partition of Bengal with its suggestions of stage-acting excites a smile. The Members of the Bengal Legislative Council raised a wail and were rebuked by the Lieutenant-Governor. But none could muster courage to declare that he resigned his Councillorship then and there. Seeing that the English Government does not flinch from causing pain to the minds of a whole people, what is the use of being advisers to such a Government?

There is another serious point. The partition of Bengal has broken the hearts of the Bengali people. At such a time with what heart can the Bengali people join in rejoicings? The Prince is coming—we shall show the honour due to Royalty towards him, but we shall not be able to set fountains of mirths on the flow. If you have the courage, then proclaim loudly that the Indian Government has wounded us at our hearts' core, and therefore we shall not be able to plunge ourselves in the festivities in honour of the Royal visit, but that we shall show just that amount of honour which it is the duty of slaves like ourselves to show to their King.

Give up the holding of meetings, cease to be mere men of words, summon courage and spirit and keep yourselves aloof, and then will the Englishman appreciate your strength. If instead of that you simply lick his feet and whine, then you will only continue to receive kicks from his boots. Do you not know what the leaders of the Boer people are doing? Botha and DeWet were invited to become members of the Legislative Council which has just been established in their country, but they have refused the offer. It is their resolve to keep entirely aloof from Government until a constitution is granted which they like. And what has been the result of this resolve? The English Government has been quietly climbing down. The British Government wished to establish the predominance of the English language in the Boer schools, and at once went forth the proclamation that no Boer lad was to attend these schools. This cowed the English Government at once. If you lack such unity and strength, then why continue to make an exhibition of yourselves by an exercise of mere word-splitting.

DAILY HITAVADI,
July 18th, 1905.

64. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th July says that a remarkable feature of the meeting recently held in the Calcutta Town Hall in connection with the ensuing Royal visit was that it was attended by only a small number of students and educated middle-class people. The partition affair alone cannot account for the fact nor can it be explained, as the Anglo-Indians try to explain it, by the theory that the people are disloyal. The Indians consider it a religious duty on their part to show loyalty to their sovereign, and everyone who saw the universal outburst of loyalty in India on the occasion of the present King-Emperor's visit to the land knows this very well. There may be oppressions in the country committed by officials, and there may be cause for dissatisfaction so far as they are concerned, but such things cannot affect the loyalty of the Indians to their English sovereign and deter them from showing their love and respect to the grandson of the late generous Queen Victoria.

The chief cause of the non-attendance of students and educated middle-class people in the Town Hall meeting is to be found in official interference. The manner in which officials try to extort loyalty from the people often puts the latter into inconvenience. Official frowns often dry up the fountains of loyalty in men's hearts. In the Town Hall meeting also the conduct of the officials prevented many people from showing their loyalty. Government apparently does not think it desirable that people should show their love to their sovereign independently of it. It therefore appears to them on such occasions, with its entire machinery of laws and regulations, swords and bayonets, and

badges and red-tape to their utter bewilderment and consternation. In the Town Hall meeting, if arrangements had been made for a native Prince like the Maharaja of Tippera to fill the chair instead of Sir Andrew Fraser and for a native zamindar to move the first resolution instead of Sir Francis Maclean, and if officials had refrained from all concern with the meeting, then there would have been a large attendance of educated middle-class men in it. If Government does not like to give the Indians independence in even such a matter as showing loyalty to their sovereign, no wonder that those who are educated among them should keep themselves aloof from all meetings called by officials.

65. The following is the substance of an article published in the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd July:—

BANGAVASI,
July 22nd, 1905.

Government going a-begging.

It is a shame that our rulers should go a-begging from door to door for what they call public purposes. Our idea of royalty is shocked by the sight of a Sovereign standing at our doors with a beggar's wallet in his hand. The King's representative may have wasted large sums of money on the Delhi Darbar, and palatial buildings may be raised in different places for a fortnight's residence of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But the King is free to expend his money in whatever way he pleases. The poor subject may die of starvation and of diseases generated by the drinking of unwholesome water, but he has no right to condemn the happy round of festivities and merriments held by the rulers. The King's representative may divide Bengal and separate brother from brother. All that is permissible. But why should he take up the beggar's wallet for such purposes as the Victoria Memorial, the Ranchi College, the Kangra Valley Earthquake relief, &c. If the revenue which he realizes from the country is insufficient to meet his purposes, why does he not re-introduce the old system of realizing *mathats* and *abwabs*. If the people can bear oppressive taxes like the Road and Public Works cesses and the chaukidari-tax, they can also bear additional taxation in the form of *mathats* and *abwabs*. Only let the King throw away his beggar's wallet.

66. The *Pratiya* [Calcutta] of the 26th July publishes a poem from a correspondent depicting an interview between Ram Das Swami and his favourite pupil Sivaji

A poem about Sivaji.

PRATIYA,
July 26th, 1905.

in the midst of a cremation ground on a very dark night with the sky entirely overcast, and giving out at times flashes of lightning. Sivaji is represented as seeking from his master for guidance as to what is the correct way fixed for advancing the national and individual interests of a people. For answer, the master asked Sivaji to look up, and Sivaji looked up and saw the figure of Mother India standing with a terrible sword in her hand, and saying with a smile on her lips, "This is the one truth on earth." Sivaji also heard a chorus of gods and goddesses singing around the figure of Mother India, and extolling the sword as the redresser of all wrongs, the preserver of home, of prosperity, and generally of almost all that a man values in life.

URIYA PAPERS.

The rice market.

67. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 12th July states that the rising price of rice adds to the difficulties of the consumers.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
July 12th, 1905.

68. The same paper draws the attention of the Chairman of the Balasore Municipality to the deplorable condition of the streets in that Municipality that stand in need of urgent repairs, and to the mischief committed by stray dogs in that town.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

The question of press communication by Government.

69. The same paper thanks Government for taking steps to supply early information to the Press regarding matters in which the public are interested.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

70. The same paper joins the *Prajabandhu* of Ganjam in the latter's remark that the Uriya graduates in Ganjam do not enjoy the sunshine of royal favour through the

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

Uriya graduates in Ganjam. machinations of the Telegus, who form the preponderating element in the public services in the Madras Presidency.

STAR OF UTKAL,
July 15th, 1905.

Uriya graduates in Ganjam.

71. The *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 15th July speaks of the Uriya graduates in the same strain.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
July 12th, 1905.

72. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 12th July states that the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj has done some justice to the claims of the Uriyas by admitting three or four of their number into the public services of that State, and hopes that he will not be indifferent to the claims of the Bengalis domiciled in Orissa for whom he has manifested a predilection by making a voluntary contribution of Rs. 50 towards the expenses of Babu Mohesh Chandra Rai, a Bengali student domiciled in Orissa, who has gone to Japan.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

73. The same paper strongly supports the claims of Mr. Jagannath Datta, Assistant Manager of Dhenkanal, to a place in the Provincial Executive Service, and quotes lines from his certificates to show the meritorious services that he has rendered to the public. The writer regrets that his claims were overlooked when Messrs. Jogendranath Mitra, Bhikari Charan Das and Radhamadhab Naik were admitted into that service.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

74. Referring to the predilection of the Manager of the Jagannath Temple in Puri for the installation of electric light in that temple, the same paper advises him to take note of the hostility that the novel step may create among the orthodox members of the Hindu community in India.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

75. The same paper states that the *Rath jatra* at Gangpur was marked by a fatal accident, resulting in the death of a man, who through carelessness came under the car-wheels and was ground down to death.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
July 13th, 1905.

76. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 13th July states that though rain fell in the last week in Balasore, the rainfall was not uniform throughout the district.

GARJATBASINI,
July 15th, 1905.

77. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 15th July states that showers of rain fell at Puri in the last week, encouraging the agriculturists to proceed with their operations.

GARJATBASINI.

78. The *Sankhatras* correspondent of the same paper states that dirty salt is being sold there at a high price, and that the effect of the reduction of the salt-tax on the consumers is very little.

GARJATBASINI.

79. The same paper says that the Raja of Talcher has succeeded in preparing fine sugar from the date and palm trees that grow in abundance in that state, and hopes that the Talcher sugar will find a market in due time.

GARJATBASINI.

80. The same paper estimates the number of pilgrims and visitors assembled at Puri during the last *Rath jatra* at 70,000.

GARJATBASINI.

81. Following in the wake of the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 28th June 1905, which recommended two domiciled Bengalis for the post of Deputy Inspector of Schools, Puri, the same paper recommends Messrs. Dibyasinha Misra and Modhusudan Das, both of whom are graduates, are serving in the Education Department and have had special training in the Kurseong Normal School, for that post. It is said that they have a special aptitude for the performance of duties assigned to a Deputy Inspector of Schools.

STAR OF UTKAL,
July 15th, 1905.

82. Referring to the new assessment of taxes on houses and carriages in the Cuttack Municipality by a temporary assessor employed by that Municipality, the *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 15th July states that the taxes have in many cases been doubled, and that this proceeding is both arbitrary and unjust, as no necessity has been pointed out for the imposition of such an exorbitant tax and as the rate-payers, who support the Municipality, have not been consulted in any way. Besides no reason has been assigned for such an extraordinary procedure.

83. Referring to the increase in the house-rates and latrine-taxes in the same Municipality, the same paper states that the assessor has failed to form a correct estimate of the fair and reasonable rent that a house can fetch,

STAR OF UTKAL,
July 15th, 1905.

The municipal assessment in Cuttack.

for he has proposed to tax some huts on an imaginary rent of rupees fifteen a month, and has assessed one house in the town on a rent of rupees five hundred a month. The appeals filed by the house-owners before the Appeal Committee against this unjust assessment are, as a rule, summarily dismissed. The writer therefore finds grounds to suggest that the Municipal Commissioners care more for the approbation of the higher authorities than for the goodwill of the rate-payers, who have called them into being. The Municipal Commissioners are therefore advised to resign, as they have not proved true to the confidence reposed in them by their electorates.

84. Referring to the same subject, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 15th July states that the Appeal Committee are disposing of the appeals in time, and that 80 per cent. of the appeals were unnecessary and had no good grounds to stand upon. The writer, however, states that the verdicts of the Appeal Committee are not always just, and points out in detail the irregularities in assessment committed by the assessor who, coming from Bengal and having no experience of houses in Cuttack, has naturally committed mistakes which it is the duty of the Appeal Committee to correct in time. The writer further observes that the ignorant and illiterate appellants are no match for the Chairman or Vice-Chairman aided by the assessor, who are able enough to put their cases intelligently before the Appeal Committee. The Appeal Committee should therefore rise equal to the occasion, take all sides of the cases into their consideration and use, when necessary, the discretionary powers vested in them by the law to the benefit of the appellants.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 15th, 1905.

The municipal assessment in Cuttack.

85. The same paper states that there was sufficient rain in the last week, and as a consequence the river is rising.

UTKALDIPIKA.

The rainfall.

Fever in Cuttack town.

86. The same paper states that slight fever prevails in the Cuttack town.

UTKALDIPIKA.

87. The Sankhatras

correspondent of the same paper states that the Sankhatras village road stands in need of urgent repairs, and that the village is liable to be under water during floods, since there is

UTKALDIPIKA.

A bad road in the Cuttack district.

no strong embankment on the northern side of the village to protect it from the overflowing Kathjari.

88. Referring to the brilliant success achieved by Mr. M. N. Roy in the Cambridge University examination in History, the same paper observes that the Indians are in no way inferior to Englishmen in intelligence, and

UTKALDIPIKA.

A meritorious Indian student at Cambridge.

that Lord Curzon, while pronouncing the Indians to be unfit for high appointments in the public service, can only be said to have nursed prejudice against the Indians.

89. Referring to the mischievous throwing of stones into the houses of Messrs. Dwarkanath Roy, Madhusudan Mitra, and Balmukunda Kanungo, reported last week, the same paper says that the malpractice continues

UTKALDIPIKA.

Throwing of stones into some respectable houses in Cuttack town.

in spite of the constant watch of the town chaukidars, backed by the police, and regrets that the inefficiency of the Cuttack Town Police is apparent, as they being unable to arrest the offenders now ask the householders to do the same. The mischief has become serious, as a lady belonging to one of the houses has been wounded.

90. Referring to the recent notice published over the signature of the Registrar of the Calcutta University in which it is said that the Syndicate have been asked by

UTKALDIPIKA.

Nomination of Deputy Magistrates by the Calcutta University.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to nominate six candidates from among the distinguished M. A.'s of the year 1904 and the distinguished B. A.'s and B. Sc.'s of the year 1905 for appointment to the Provincial Civil Service, the same paper suggests that the privilege should be extended to the older graduates in so far as that may be compatible with the age-limit prescribed by the rules in force.

UTKALDIPKA,
July 15th, 1905.

91. The same paper admits the necessity of moral and religious education for the benefit of Hindu students now in schools and colleges, and observes that as Government from their neutral position are unable to encourage any particular religion in State schools and institutions, it is the duty of the Hindu society to make provision for the religious education of young men belonging to that society. The writer regrets that the Hindu society has made no progress in that direction.

UTKALDIPKA.

92. Referring to the partition of Bengal, the same paper thanks His Excellency the Viceroy for bringing Sambalpur and Orissa under one Provincial Government, and states that Ganjam should also have been joined to the other Uriya-speaking tracts, as thereby the Uriyas would have found ample opportunity to grow and prosper as a nation.

UTKALDIPKA.

93. The same paper is sorry to find that the garden attached to the Jagannath Ballabh Math, which supplies flowers and fruits to the temple of God Jagannath, is being neglected on account of the mismanagement arising from the long-protracted litigation between the Kothari and the Committee of the Math. The writer suggests that the Manager of the Puri Temple should be put in charge of the garden during the pendency of suits in connection with the Math.

UTKALDIPKA.

94. The same paper states that the ceremonies in connection with the *Uttarath* at Puri passed off without any hitch or hindrance, and that there were present 80,000 pilgrims and visitors in that town to greet God Jagannath and his celestial companions back to their temple after their temporary residence in the *Gundicha* house.

UTKALDIPKA.

95. The same paper as also its contemporary of the *Star of Utkal* regrets to observe that the stringency of the provisions of the Arms Act has so emasculated the people of the Kendrapara town in the Cuttack district that though five hundred men, headed by the Assistant Engineer and the Subdivisional Officer, went to meet a tiger that had suddenly made itself felt in the neighbourhood, they were no match for the man-eater who put the crowd to the greatest confusion by severely mauling Mr. Roy, the Assistant Engineer. Though the animal was ultimately tagged by the Subdivisional Officer with the greatest difficulty, Mr. Roy is in a serious predicament.

ASSAM PAPERS.

SILCHAR,
July 16th, 1906.

96. The *Silchar* [Cachar] of the 16th July writes:—

The partition question. Assam has long been under the reproach of being a non-regulation province. That reproach will now be a thing of the past: there will be a Lieutenant-Governor for this province, like the one in Bengal; there will also be a Legislative Council,—in short in all matters of administration, Assam will be brought up into a line with Bengal. What can be a matter of greater rejoicing? Our joy knows no bounds now.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 29th July, 1905.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 29th July 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

948. In notifying that Mr. Louis Dane had been vested with the Order of Knight Companion, the *London Gazette*, writes the *Indian Mirror*, referred to the Amir as 'His Highness' and not as 'His Majesty.' This violates the only new provision of the recent treaty with Afghanistan and gives the Amir a good excuse for annulling it.

INDIAN MIRROR,
22nd July 1905.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

949. *New India* characterises the investigation of the Sovabazar tragedy as one of the blackest scandals of recent times, in which 'some of the highest police officers' are implicated, and calls upon the Government to appoint a Commission to inquire into the case and to bring to justice those who did not scruple to adopt the foulest means in order to saddle an innocent man with the murder.

NEW INDIA,
2nd July 1905.

The *Sovabazar murder*. The journal has also serious fault to find with Maulvi Bazlul Karim, the third Presidency Magistrate, for attempting to coerce the accused into making a self-incriminating statement, and considers that this officer has proved himself to be a useful and consenting ally of an unscrupulous police.

950. Public opinion, writes *Power and Guardian*, demands that a thorough inquiry be made into the Sovabazar tragedy, in which the police not only failed to apprehend the real culprit, but did what was infinitely worse, namely, placed an innocent man in the dock. Suppose the police prosecution had succeeded and the accused Girish been sentenced to death, how could the conspirators have been adequately punished? This consideration alone should lead the Government to take very serious notice of the action of the police.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
23rd July 1905.

951. The *Indian Mirror* writes that the press are unanimous in demanding an independent inquiry into the Sovabazar tragedy. Sir Andrew Fraser cannot well refuse so legitimate and reasonable a demand, as the matter is of vital public importance. The Government should not rest 'until the policemen who tried to hang an innocent man by dint of hard lying' are found out and the real murderer or murderers brought to justice.

INDIAN MIRROR,
23rd July 1905.

952. A correspondent writing to the *Bengalee*, seeks to exonerate the Calcutta Police from all blame in connection with the investigation of the Sovabazar tragedy, and endeavours to lay bare the falsity of several of the allegations that were made against them. It is urged, says the writer, that while Sovendra Krishna was in custody, the police collected evidence against Girish with the help of persons connected with the Raj. It may here be stated that the investigation was conducted by the most upright officers and supervised by responsible European officers, and that the papers were laid before a high law officer of Government, under whose imperative instructions Girish was placed on his trial. The police had no choice in the matter. As regards the charge of corruption, Sovendra Krishna is himself a mere boy and his circumstances were prominently brought out in the cross-examination. His father's pecuniary condition also transpired in the evidence. These facts in themselves are a sufficient refutation of the allegation of corruption. But suppose that Sovendra and not the accused Girish had been sent up for trial and acquitted, would not the public have cried out against a historic family being wantonly disgraced? Now, however, that the Kumar was not sent up, an inquiry into the case and the conduct of the police is being persistently demanded, and it is earnestly hoped that, in justice to the Calcutta Police, this course will be adopted.

BENGALUR,
27th July 1905.

TRUTH,
23rd July 1905.

953. *Truth* (Howrah) complains that a regular system of black-mailing is going on at the Howrah Railway station. When a hackney carriage driver leaves the stand, it is observed that he pays one anna to a shabbily-dressed boy, who receives it on behalf of the police. If this sort of thing is permitted to go on next door to the metropolis, what must it be in the *mufassal*? Is this the long-wished-for police reform? The Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, should inquire into this malpractice and put it down with a firm hand. It is now understood why complaints made to the police regarding hackney carriage drivers refusing to accept the prescribed fares are allowed to pass unnoticed.

BENGALIEE,
23rd July 1905.

954. The *Bengalee* complains that the Colootollah constables are in the habit of converting the foot-path opposite the house in which they live into a sort of feeding ground, with the result that when they are having their meals, the public are deprived of the right of way. On Wednesday last at about 11-30 A.M., while a Muhammadan gentleman was unsuspectingly passing along the foot-path, he was abused and insulted by a number of constables, some of whom threatened to take him to the thana and lay a charge against him for committing a nuisance! The journal hopes that the Deputy Commissioner will look into this matter, as it will sooner or later end in a *fracas* between the police and the Colootollah roughs.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th July 1905.

955. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Tamluk correspondent draws the attention of the Subdivisional Officer to a prevalent form of police oppression, namely, the prosecution of villagers on a false charge of committing a public nuisance. These police prosecutions entail great financial loss and harassment, and it is hoped that the Subdivisional Officer will institute an early inquiry into the matter.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
18th July 1905.

956. The *Weekly Chronicle* (Assam) writes that the result of the Tippera arson case, in which the accused Stapylton was so leniently dealt with, serves only to strengthen the prevailing idea that it is useless to expect justice when the offender is a European. It is decisions such as these that compel the people to impute motives to the highest tribunal in the land. If ignorance of the law was regarded as an extenuating circumstance in Mr. Stapylton's case, can it be explained why this plea is never accepted in the case of an Indian, who has to pay the utmost penalty for his offence?

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th July 1905.

957. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* correspondent draws the attention of Government to the congested files of criminal cases in Arrah, and attributes this unsatisfactory state of affairs to the dearth of Magistrates possessing first class powers. Cases are in consequence being constantly adjourned, and the greatest inconvenience and expense are thereby being inflicted on contending parties. In short, the criminal administration of the district is at a standstill and the services of a Magistrate possessing first class powers are urgently needed.

BENGALIEE,
29th July 1905.

958. A correspondent writing to the *Bengalee* complains that the litigant section of the population of Baraset subdivision are put to the greatest inconvenience owing to the Subdivisional Officer attending his Court as late as 3 o'clock in the afternoon and keeping it open till 9 or 10 P.M. Contending parties are thus unable to leave for their homes and have to stay the night at Baraset. The writer considers that the Subdivisional Officer should show both the pleaders and their clients more consideration by attending Court at a proper hour.

(d)—Education.

BENGALIEE,
26th July 1905.

959. The *Bengalee* considers that a Civilian Director of Public Instruction would be quite unable to maintain the prestige of that high office as, having received his education no less than a quarter of a century ago at some

third-rate English school, he is sure to be hopelessly outclassed by experts who have grown grey in educational work. Moreover, it cannot be contended, that there is a dearth of suitable men in the Educational Service itself, as there are no less than half-a-dozen officers who are in every way qualified to succeed Mr. Pedler.

960. The *Bengalee* condemns as unjustifiable the circular which has recently been issued prohibiting private students from appearing at University examinations without the special permission of the Senate. If application for permission to sit is to be regarded merely as a formal matter, and will be granted in every case, an assurance to this effect should be given.

BENGALIE,
27th July 1905.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

961. The *Behar Herald* hopes that the visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Patna will rouse the municipal authorities from their lethargy and cause them to adopt measures to improve the sanitary condition of the town. The first step to be taken in this direction is to give the people a supply of pure drinking-water. Scarcity of such water, especially in the rainy season, has been a crying want from time immemorial, and it is earnestly hoped that now that the Lieutenant-Governor is going to make Patna his head-quarters for some portion of the year, this long-standing grievance will be removed.

BEHAR HERALD,
22nd July 1905.

962. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Tamluk correspondent regards the scheme for the erection of a cholera shed at Tamluk as a laudable one, but vetoes the suggestion that it should be situated on a piece of land a little to the west of the Raja's house, as such an arrangement would be endangering the life of the Raja. The shed should be situated on the outskirts of the town, and the writer hopes that the Chairman of the Municipality will accept this suggestion.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th July 1905.

963. Referring to the city improvement project and the extensive scheme of taxation it involves, the *Hindoo Patriot* asks whether it is right that the burdens of the already overtaxed rate-payers should be increased? When the Central Railway station project is launched, further imposts will probably be laid on the people, so that it is difficult to see where the limit of taxation lies. This limit has admittedly been reached long ago and any further attempt to increase it will be stoutly resisted by the public of Calcutta.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
26th July 1905.

964. The *Bengalee* writes that the Calcutta improvement scheme, which has at last been published, entails an expenditure of no less than 8½ crores of rupees. Of this sum, 336 lakhs will be recouped from frontage owners, 55 lakhs will be contributed by Government, and the rest will be borrowed. The journal considers that the amount obtainable from the first source has been set down in excess of what it is likely to be. In the case of Harrison Road fabulous prices were realised by the sale of surplus lands because the Building Regulations were not in force then. It is thus not safe to go on past experience in assigning what income is likely to be derived by means of recoupment and recoveries from frontage owners.

BENGALIE,
27th July 1905.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

965. The *Indian Mirror* very much regrets the miscarriage of justice that has taken place in the Kharagpur and Saran Railway outrages, as the decisions arrived at will have a most demoralising effect upon the travelling public. The journal considers that when railway employes are guilty of such offences, they should be departmentally punished. The Railway Board would do well to issue a circular to all Railway Companies insisting on condign punishments being inflicted on offenders, and the Indian community should not rest until such cases are rendered impossible in future.

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th July 1905.

(h)—General.

INDIAN NATION,
17th July 1905.

966. The *Indian Nation* writes that the carrying out of the partition scheme is indicative of the flagrant disregard in which public opinion on so momentous a question was held by the responsible authorities. The matter is without a precedent in the history of Bengal and constitutes a national grievance of a grave character.

The partition of Bengal.

INDIAN MIRROR,
24th July 1905.

967. The *Indian Mirror* writes that when the question of the partition of Bengal first came on the tapis, it was understood that only the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions were

Ibid.

to be severed, with the exception of the districts of Backergunge and Faridpur which would still form part of Bengal. The proposal, however, encountered such strenuous opposition that nothing more was heard regarding it until the modified scheme was sprung on the people. Of the extensive scheme which has unfortunately received the sanction of the Secretary of State, the present ruler of Bengal was to a certain extent the originator, and as such he has been instrumental in inflicting a grievous wrong on the people of the province.

BENGALIEE,
22nd July 1905.

968. The *Bengalee* writes that when the question of partitioning Bengal was under consideration, Sir Andrew Fraser contented himself with merely consulting his trusted officers

Ibid.

instead of ascertaining the views of the representatives of the millions whose interests would be vitally affected by separation. The injustice of such an arrangement is abundantly clear from the fact that while the former could only have had a personal and transient interest in the matter, the people themselves had an abiding interest, strengthened a hundredfold by linguistic, traditional, and racial ties. They were, however, condemned unheard, and Sir Andrew Fraser himself played no small part in encompassing this national disaster. He has in consequence forfeited the esteem and goodwill of the people—the highest reward which a ruler can look forward to.

BENGALIEE,
23rd July 1905.

969. It is quite clear, writes the *Bengalee*, that the real objects of the partition scheme are threefold, namely, to destroy the collective power of the Bengali people, to

Ibid.

overthrow the political ascendancy of Calcutta, and lastly, to foster in East Bengal the growth of a Muhammadan power, which, it is hoped, will have the effect of keeping in check the rapidly growing strength of the educated Hindu community. In order that the scheme may succeed, the journal informs the Government that it must close its schools and colleges, railways and telegraphs, and lastly, suppress the newspapers. When all this is effectively done, the policy of 'divide and rule' may have some chance of success. As regards the alienation of the Muhammadan community of Bengal, it may be said that the agitation against the partition has drawn all classes of Indians in closer union against a common foe. It is indeed a fortunate thing that there are not many English statesmen of Lord Curzon's type, and the country has much to be thankful for that it will soon be rid of His Excellency.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th June 1905.

970. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that Babu Lal Mohan Ghose's exhortation to the people of the province to observe mourning for a whole year on account of the

Ibid.

splitting up of their province and his advice to all persons holding honorary offices under Government to resign in a body, is an index to the deep feeling of discontent that has been brought about by the partition scheme. Lord Curzon will, by this violent act, create a few scores of fat berths for his countrymen, but at what a tremendous cost to the Indians, the future alone can show.

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th July 1905.

971. The *Indian Mirror* writes that the most memorable instance of 'Oriental diplomacy' pales into insignificance before the tortuous methods adopted by Government to

Ibid.

render the new partition scheme an accomplished fact. By means of evasive replies and studied silence on the part of the Government the panic-stricken people were lulled into a false sense of security and hoped that the dreaded project would be dropped. The blow, however, was to be dealt, and the authorities thought fit to deal it at a time when the province was least prepared to receive it, namely, at a time when India was to be honoured with a royal visit. On such auspicious occasions rare privileges are granted to the people, but this is not to be the case so far as the Bengalis are concerned, for they are in the throes of a grave national calamity.

972. The *Bengalee* considers that the warning administered to the people of Dacca telling them that if they continue to agitate against the Partition Scheme, Dacca will

BENGALÉE,
26th July 1905.

The partition of Bengal. not be made the capital of the new province but will be reduced to the position of a subsidiary capital like Bankipore, is significant and shows that Government are somewhat nervous of the results of further agitation. It is thus incumbent on the entire province to renew their protests with redoubled vigour, and the journal urges the people of Dacca to let no consideration seduce them from the path of duty. Further, there is no doubt that in the space of a few years the capital of the new province will shift to the seaport town of Chittagong. The real and permanent capital will, however, be Shillong.

973. The *Hindoo Patriot* writes that as the Government of India are unable to perceive any wisdom in the Army Reorganisation Scheme, so the people of Bengal

HINDOO PATRIOT,
26th July 1905.

Ibid. are unable to find any justification for the partition of their province. They are convinced that the scheme will not work well and a host of subtle Resolutions would not convince them to the contrary. All classes of subjects, rich and poor, high and low, and loyal and disloyal, have unanimously protested against the scheme, and it behoves the Government not to disregard the daily-growing agitation.

974. The *Indian Mirror* writes that in the Government Resolution on the subject, every attempt has been made to justify the action taken in regard to the partition

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th July 1905.

Ibid. of Bengal. It is stated that when the original scheme was first published 18 months ago, it formed the subject of widespread and searching criticism and many of the representations received from public bodies, etc., were not without effect upon the course ultimately adopted. This statement prompts the journal to ask the Government whether the scheme which was published 18 months ago was identical with that submitted to the Secretary of State? Further, was the proposal to sever the Rajshahi Division ever laid before the public? The answers to these questions must be in the negative, and hence it is clear that public entreaties or protests did not carry the least weight. It is also stated in the Resolution that the Lieutenant-Governor reported that there was complete unanimity among his most senior officers in accepting the revised scheme. The journal does not wonder at this, as there would have been as complete a unanimity among a band of hungry men in accepting an invitation to a sumptuous repast. The partition of Bengal and the creation of a new Lieutenant-Governorship opened up great possibilities, especially for the 'senior officers,' and it would have been perfectly unnatural if they did allow considerations of preferment to influence their decision.

975. A correspondent writing to the *Indian Mirror* says that it is only when money is required for fêting Royalty and lesser potentates that Government seek the co-

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th July 1905.

Ibid. operation of the people, but in administrative matters they are not so much as considered. It thus behoves the nation to appeal to King and Parliament asking for the immediate repeal of Lord Curzon's partition scheme, pointing out at the same time that it would otherwise be impossible for them to participate in the officially organised reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

976. Another correspondent writing to the same journal says that in any other country, a scheme like the Partition Scheme would have resulted in strikes and riots.

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th July 1905.

Ibid. For the present, however, it is essentially necessary that the members of the Committee for the reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales should withdraw in a body and the Honorary Treasurer be requested to refund all subscriptions. As the bulk of the money has been subscribed by the British Indian Association, that body should move without delay on the ground that a mourning people cannot join in a national rejoicing. The loyalty of the Indians cannot be doubted, as they have already given abundant proof of it, and this concerted action on their part may swerve the Home Government from their purpose. The docile public opinion of a disarmed people will assuredly be ignored, and, in her hour of need, Bengal expects every one of her sons to do his utmost.

BENGALIEE,
23rd July 1905.

977. From a petition submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy by Babu Ashutosh Dutt, writes the *Bengalee*, it appears that the petitioner was one of five Bengalis who proceeded to Lhasa on duty with the Tibet Mission. In recognition of his services, the Government, which is distinguished for its 'unexampled liberality,' gave him a sub. *pro tem.* appointment on a salary of Rs. 30 in the office of the Store-keeper-General of Supply and Transport! This post, however, has been abolished under the Reorganisation Scheme, and it is incumbent on the Government, for whom he risked his life, to find him some other employment.

A hard case.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th July 1905.

978. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Tamluk correspondent complains that innumerable houses of ill-fame are scattered all over the town and also in the vicinity of educational institutions. This growing social evil cannot fail to have a most demoralising effect on the younger generation and it is earnestly hoped that the District Magistrate and the Subdivisional Officer will seriously consider the advisability of relegating women of ill-fame to a remote part of the town.

Social evil in Tamluk.

BENGALIEE,
27th July 1905.

979. The *Bengalee* welcomes the appointment of a Committee to consider the question of raising the pay and status of ministerial officers, and hopes that the proceedings will be published from time to time, as nothing can be gained by observing secrecy in a matter of this kind. *A propos* of this, the journal hopes that it is not true that the number of these officers is to be reduced in order to apply the savings to enhancing their salaries. As a rule, clerks are very hard worked, and it would be mischievous to go in for a curtailment of establishment when there is no corresponding decrease in the work.

The pay of ministerial officers.

III.—LEGISLATION.

BIHAR NEWS.
19th July 1905.

980. The *Behar News* congratulates His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the introduction of a piece of legislation which provides for the discontinuance of brothels and disorderly houses in the vicinity of educational institutions, and considers that it will indeed be a red letter day when, after the Bill has been passed into law, neighbourhoods where schools and colleges exist and respectable people live, will be rid of these moral plague-spots.

Disorderly Houses Bill.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th July 1905.

982. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the people of the Madras Presidency are being afflicted with the terrors of famine and are flocking to the city, numbers dying on the way. The Government sanctioned Rs. 3,000 for relief measures, but this amount is quite insufficient. The journal reminds the Government of India that the partition of a province is of far less importance than the feeding of a famished people.

Famine in Madras.

BENGALIEE,
22nd July 1905.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

981. The *Bengalee* writes that the Army Reorganisation Scheme furnishes the surprised Indian public with the only instance of an Indian Viceroy sacrificing his convictions, prestige, and dignity for the sake of office. Any other Viceroy whose relations with the Cabinet were on a similarly unsatisfactory footing would have unhesitatingly resigned office, but it is different with Lord Curzon, who is wedded to Eastern ideas of pomp and grandeur.

Lord Curzon and his party.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.
OF POLICE, L. P.

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 29th July 1905.

F. C. DALY,
Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.